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The Bulletins will not appear during the holidays. Next issue will be January 5, 1948.

A TROUPE OF LITTLE WISE MEN AND PROPHETS RE-ENACTS THE CHRISTMAS STORY IN HUNGARY

With fanciful costumes, toy church, and staves, these serious mummers tramp the snowy roads from house to house performing simple plays and singing carols. Fond grown-ups give the boys food treats. This type of Christmas minstrelsy is practiced in many lands. The singing of carols started in Assisi, Italy, when Saint Francis sang with joy in telling the Christmas story (Bulletin No. 2).

Bulletin No. 1, December 15, 1947

São Paulo's Fast Growth Brings Subway Plan

BRAZIL'S São Paulo, planning an extensive underground transportation system to ease congestion caused by rapid growth, sets a fast pace among South American cities. It is a foremost center of industry and is a leader in civic and cultural planning.

Having doubled its population in the last two decades, this "Chicago of Latin America" now counts nearly 1,500,000 residents. Only Buenos Aires, Argentine capital, and Rio de Janeiro, the capital of Brazil, surpass it on the continent.

Coffee and Cotton Make Wealth

Besides its Brazilian majority, São Paulo has large Italian, Portuguese, Spanish, German, and other foreign population groups. The city lies a half-mile above sea level, 220 air miles southwest of Rio, and 36 miles inland behind the high coastal ridge from the port of Santos. Most of the output of the ring of 1,200 or more factories that encircles the commercial heart moves to Santos by railroad. The line descends 2,600 feet in the course of seven miles.

Much of the city's business is still tied to coffee and cotton, the staple crops of São Paulo State. The state, of which the city is the capital, is the most densely populated in Brazil. Nearly half of Brazil's industry, including the modern iron and steel center at Volta Redonda, lies within its borders. It also includes a score of cities with more than 50,000 population.

Cotton and rayon mills in the city employ thousands of people. Half a hundred plants work in rubber. Big tire, automotive, and meat-packing plants bear familiar North American names. Metal-working, chemical, food-processing, and other industries were geared to production for United Nations throughout the war.

In the heart of São Paulo, streetcars and automobiles jam through office-building canyons. Skyscrapers reach to 30 stories and higher. Coffee and cotton exchanges, banks, hotels, and shops are prominent. Everything centers at the "Triangle," where electric signs advertising familiar products make North Americans feel at home.

"University City" Planned

Parks are set like verdant oases amid the commerce. Successful city planning is apparent in wide arterial thoroughfares, new viaducts, and tunnels through the hills to suburbs where landscaped homes border broad avenues.

Besides the subway system, São Paulo is planning a "University City." It will gather several college units now scattered throughout the district, providing facilities for 10,000 students. Low-cost housing for workers is under construction. Paulistas are proud of their schools, libraries, hospitals, water system, and stadium (illustration, next page).

From streams that rise west of the coastal ridge, São Paulo gets good

ENTERED AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER APRIL 27, 1943, POST OFFICE, WASHINGTON, D. C., UNDER ACT OF MARCH 3, 1879.
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BURTON HOLMES FROM GALLOWAY

VILLAGE NEIGHBORS, HELPING ONE ANOTHER, MAKE A SOCIAL OCCASION OF THRESHING TIME IN THE SAAR BASIN

Choosing a street for the operation is not unusual since Saar farmers live in villages and their grainfields are small. Ten per cent of the people of this preponderantly industrial region on the border between Germany and France live by agriculture, but so intensively do they cultivate their long, narrow strip-fields that normally the Saar can feed itself. Economic union with France was recently voted by Saar residents (Bulletin No. 5).

Bulletin No. 2, December 15, 1947

How Santa Claus Came to the United States

YES, there is a Santa Claus. He is listed in the dictionary. Here is what Webster says: Santa Claus *or* Klaus—U. S. colonial corruption of Dutch *Sant Nikolaas.* See Saint Nicholas.

Under "Saint Nicholas," it is explained that this holy man was "a bishop of Myra, Asia Minor (died ? 345). He is the patron saint of Russia, and of mariners, merchants, and children. As the bearer of presents to children on Christmas Eve, his name has been corrupted to *Santa Claus.*"

Saint Nicholas Was Boy Bishop

Behind these scant facts lies the fascinating story of how Santa Claus came to the United States. It was a trip nearly as long as the one he traditionally makes every Christmas Eve and it took him through many countries—but strangely not to the North Pole!

Saint Nicholas, flesh and blood prototype of Santa, was born on December 6, about three centuries after the birth of Christ. He lived in Myra, a city of Lycia in what is now southwest Turkey. As a boy, Nicholas was so wise and good that he was made a bishop.

His father had been a wealthy merchant, but Nicholas secretly gave away all his inherited wealth. It became known that he left three bags of gold for the daughters of a poor man who could not afford dowries. This benefaction not only connected his name with anonymous gift giving but also gave pawnbrokers, in a roundabout way, their triple-gold-ball symbol.

The surprise gifts from Saint Nicholas gradually became associated with his birthday, December 6, and for centuries this date—three weeks before Christmas—was the occasion for joy among the good boys and girls of many European nations. To some Saint Nick came by day, to others by night. In some lands he drove a horse and cart, in others he rode a great donkey. In Scandinavia he arrived in a sleigh drawn by reindeer.

"Sant Nikolaas" Became "Santa Claus"

The Dutch children of New Amsterdam brought their version of Saint Nicholas to the New World. Their benefactor was a thin, ascetic man who filled their wooden shoes with good things on Saint Nicholas Day. After the English captured New Amsterdam and named it New York, there was an intermingling of customs. English children borrowed their Dutch neighbors' Saint Nicholas.

In Dutch the saint's name is *Sant Nikolaas.* If this is pronounced fast and indistinctly, it is easily seen how early English colonists transformed the name to "Santa Claus." Other changes made by the colonists were that they preferred to be visited on Christmas Eve and, lacking wooden shoes, they hung their stockings to be filled with presents.

Today's concept of Santa was not crystallized until well into the 19th century. In 1809 Washington Irving first described him as the jolly, white-whiskered, red-suited fat man. Clement Clarke Moore in 1822 wrote the ballad beginning " 'Twas the night before Christmas" and Thomas Nast (1840-1902), famous cartoonist, helped the cause with his drawing.

UMI

drinking water and cheap electric power far beyond its big industrial needs. These streams, the Tieté and its tributaries, rise only a few miles from the Atlantic, but flow inland to the Paraná and finally reach the ocean at Buenos Aires.

Situated virtually astride the Tropic of Capricorn, São Paulo is in a warmer latitude than any point in the United States. Because of its elevation, however, it enjoys a mild, healthful climate. Its mean annual temperature is 74 degrees.

NOTE: São Paulo may be located on the National Geographic Society's map of South America. Write the Society's headquarters, Washington 6, D. C., for a map price list.

For further information, see "Brazil's Potent Weapons," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for January, 1944*; "Air Cruising Through New Brazil," October, 1942; and "As São Paulo Grows," May, 1939. *(Issues marked with an asterisk are included in a special list of Magazines available to teachers in packets of ten for $1.00)*

J. SIQUEIRA

SOUTH AMERICA, TOO, LIKES TO TURN ON THE LIGHTS FOR BIG NIGHT SPORTS SPECTACLES

The playing field is covered by paraders in formation. Soccer, not football, is the attraction that fills São Paulo's new Municipal Stadium with 80,000 fans. Around the soccer field runs a track measuring 400 meters instead of the usual quarter-mile of the United States.

Bulletin No. 3, December 15, 1947

Fifeshire Booms as Scottish Coal Center

DEVELOPMENT of Fifeshire as Scotland's coal-mining center accents a region prominent in the history of the British Isles from the days of King Malcolm Canmore, successor to Macbeth, to the birth of Andrew Carnegie, industrialist and humanitarian.

The shire has coal resources estimated in excess of five billion tons. The fields lie under, and north of, the Firth of Forth, across from Edinburgh. Experts predict the coal will last 750 years at the present rate of production.

Carnegie's native town is Dunfermline, at the edge of the coal fields. Rail connections with the coast, three miles distant, carry the products of Dunfermline's iron and brass foundries.

Stronghold in 11th Century

The cottage at 4 Moodie Street, where Carnegie was born, is a public museum. Carnegie endowed the town, provided a library and public baths, and presented historic Pittencrieff Glen for a public park. This Scottish immigrant to the United States, who made millions in the steel industry, is perhaps best remembered in his foster land by the many city and town libraries he built.

King Malcolm Canmore virtually founded Dunfermline in the 11th century when he erected a stronghold as a royal residence in Pittencrieff Glen. He had become king after the defeat and death of Macbeth, his father's assassin, a story told in Shakespeare's play. Margaret, his queen, is commemorated in the name Queen's Ferry, southeast of Dunfermline. At this Firth of Forth crossing, the Forth Bridge, nearly a mile and a half long and an engineering marvel, was built in the 1880's. Its towers reach as high as the dome of the Capitol in Washington, D. C.

It was the royal residence in Pittencrieff Glen that wrote Dunfermline large in Scottish history. There were born James I of Scotland and the queen of Henry I of England. There, in 1561, lived Mary, Queen of Scots, and there were born her grandchildren, Charles I of England and Elizabeth, Queen of Bohemia.

Mecca for Golfers

Queen Margaret rebuilt the monastery on the Isle of Iona, off the west coast of Scotland, long the burial place of Scottish kings. But Dunfermline Abbey, founded by King Malcolm in 1072, immediately succeeded Iona. In the abbey was interred a line of Scottish royalty from Malcolm himself to Robert Bruce.

The Fife town named after Carnegie's patron saint, St. Andrews, is the golf capital of the world (illustration, next page). St. Andrews is Scotland's oldest university, founded in 1412.

Cupar, county seat, is an old town without the historic importance of Dunfermline or St. Andrews. The highway center of Falkland early prospered because of the kings' residence there when the Forest of Falkland was a royal hunting preserve. With the removal of the court to London, Falkland lost its prestige.

Now, with American influence over the world, Santa often replaces more ancient and more typical customs. In tropical Brazil, where Christmas comes in summer, the jolly gentleman wears his characteristic furred robe and warm hood. Santa Claus is ousting Saint Basil as the patron saint of the Greeks' Christmas time. However, many customs (illustration, cover) strange to America are still observed in other lands.

NOTE: For additional information on the observance of Christmas, see "Bethlehem and the Christmas Story," in the *National Geographic Magazine*, December, 1929.

See also, in the GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS, December 17, 1945, "From Shut-In Austrian Valleys Came Beloved 'Silent Night';" and "Christmas Comes with the Kings, South of the Border," December 14, 1942.

RAY ATKESON

OREGON SUGAR PINES PROVIDE GIANT CONES FOR CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

Gathered from forests of this largest native pine, the cones await the holiday season in a warehouse. Association of pine cones, wreaths, mistletoe, holly, and yule logs with Christmas derived from original pagan customs in Germany, Scandinavia, the British Isles, and elsewhere. The first evergreen was decorated as a tribute to the Christ Child in Germany by Saint Boniface in the eighth century. One account of the Christmas tree's coming to the United States tells of a Bavarian immigrant in Wooster, Ohio, who, dissatisfied with the bleakness of the American yuletide, cut down a spruce tree in 1847 and decorated it with a metal star and colored paper.

Bulletin No. 4, December 15, 1947

Port Said Is Sentinel at Suez's North Gate

PORT SAID, figuring in reports of British troop and supply movements from Palestine, has long been an important empire way station. As the Mediterranean terminus of the Suez Canal, the Egyptian port was for more than half a century the buckle on Britain's military and commercial life line to India and the East.

Today, though empire directions are changing, the Suez Canal is still the "hyphen 'twixt West and East" and Port Said remains a teeming commercial focus of world shipping. Traffic (illustration, next page) still flows southeastward for 100 miles through the "big ditch" built by the French engineer, Ferdinand de Lesseps.

Building Materials and Population Came by Sea

Chosen to be the northern terminus of the canal because water is deep near shore at that point, Port Said dates from 1859. In that year the first spade cut Egypt's sand to start construction of the long ditch that was to be the Suez Canal. De Lesseps named the town for the Viceroy of Egypt, Said Pasha, who had given him permission to dig the canal.

Port Said was born to be a station on the waterway. Sand dredged up from the canal bed helped make its foundations. Much of its polyglot population, and material for many of its imposing buildings were brought by passing ships.

So cosmopolitan is Port Said that it has been described as having "no more nationality than a wireless wave." Along its streets move Arabs, Egyptians, Englishmen, Turks, Negroes, Greeks, Frenchmen, Italians, Hindus, Americans, Chinese, and Japanese.

There are men in turbans and fezzes, in flowing robes, Western-style business suits, and uniforms. Veiled women in somber black with tinkling silver trinkets brush against others in modern dress, with high heels and permanent waves.

With more than 130,000 inhabitants, Port Said today is the metropolis of the canal and the third city of Egypt. Frenchmen and Greeks comprise a large portion of the European population.

De Lesseps Statue Towers at Canal Entrance

Port Said stands on the west bank of the canal. It fits into a triangular space at the end of a low, sandy island separating Lake Manzala from the Mediterranean. From its sharp northeastern point extends the long concrete pier which marks the western side of the harbor entrance. Another long pier extends from the eastern (Asiatic) side of the canal.

To Port Said's harbor, framed by these long fingers of concrete reaching out into the Mediterranean, come ships from the Seven Seas. From a 34-foot pedestal at the land end of the western breakwater, a monument to Ferdinand de Lesseps—a 22½-foot bronze statue—looks down on a maritime procession of luxury cruisers, grim warships, stubby tugs, oil tankers, and fishing craft whose slim curved sails slant like quills against the sky.

Passing cargoes include the earth's shuttling products, raw and

Kirkcaldy's population of 47,000 makes it Fife's largest city. Linoleum is outstanding among its many factory products.

Fifeshire extends north to the Firth of Tay, a deep indentation paralleling the larger Firth of Forth. Thus Fife is a peninsula with a long North Sea coast. The Forth provides the shire's best ports.

NOTE: Fifeshire is shown on the Society's Modern Pilgrim's Map of the British Isles.

For additional information on Scotland, see "Bonnie Scotland, Postwar Style," in the *National Geographic Magazine*, May, 1946; "Low Road, High Road, Around Dundee," April, 1936; and "Edinburgh, Athens of the North," August, 1932.

See also, in the GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS, March 3, 1947, "Self-Reliant Scotland Plans New Industries."

EWING GALLOWAY

THE ROYAL AND ANCIENT GOLF COURSE OF ST. ANDREWS IS THE WORLD'S MOST FAMOUS

At the 18th hole, the clubhouse overlooks the North Sea. This Fifeshire course is regarded by golfers over the world as the parent of the game. Golf became so popular in Scotland in the 15th century that parliament outlawed the game as detrimental to the national sport—archery. However, when King James IV became an addict the ban was openly disregarded. Golf slowly spread to England, then to the United States. Great impetus was given the game in America when Francis Ouimet, a former caddy of Boston, defeated the English champions in 1913. By 1935 the United States had built 5,727 golf courses, 2,600 more than all the rest of the world combined.

Bulletin No. 5, December 15, 1947

World Saw Many 1947 Government Changes

(Dates in parentheses refer to 1947 School Bulletins on areas affected.)

PARTITION and independence were among the key words in the numerous government changes of the year now ending. The vast subcontinent of India, amid bitter struggles between Moslem and Hindu elements, was divided into the two independent British dominions of Pakistan and India (October 13). Small and turbulent Palestine (October 20, November 3), cut into eight pieces, was divided between Jewish and Arab states, with Jerusalem and vicinity an international zone.

The Indian peninsula's 562 prince-ruled states (March 3, November 17) also changed status. At press time virtually all except big Hyderabad and the strife-torn State of Jammu and Kashmir (November 3) had joined one of the dominions—most of them choosing the union of Hindu India.

Shifts in Europe

In Europe, population movements and territorial exchanges took place. Into Italy, across the new boundary line north of the Adriatic, Italians moved with their belongings from the region turned over to Yugoslavia (February 24) and from the treaty-established "Free Territory" of Trieste. Along the French-Italian frontier, the inhabitants of the tiny mountainous Tenda and Briga areas voted for annexation to France.

Czechoslovakia took over three small Hungarian towns in the Danube basin near the important city of Bratislava (Pressburg). In far-north Finland, where the Soviet Union previously had been awarded the Petsamo (Pechenga) region, an additional transfer was made of a 67-square-mile patch of Paatsjoki, with its waterfall and power plant. The Greek government gained sovereignty over the former Italian-held Dodecanese Islands in the Aegean (February 24).

In Europe, also, the inhabitants of the coal-rich industrial region of the Saar (illustration, inside cover) overwhelmingly voted for economic union with France, reversing the 1935 plebiscite that linked it with Germany.

In the central Pacific, the scattered tropic isles of the Marshall, Caroline, and Marianas groups—formerly mandated to Japan—were turned over to the United States as a United Nations trusteeship (March 17, December 8). Near by, a single equatorial speck took on two new trusteeship guardians. The valuable phosphate island of Nauru, formerly a British mandate, came under joint British, Australian, and New Zealand rule. Now nearly all United Nations trusteeship territories are disposed of.

Numerous Empire Changes

Great Britain signed a treaty with Burma (February 3) providing that in January, 1948, full power be transferred to the new, completely independent Burmese republic. Other changes within the British Empire involved the big off-India island of Ceylon (October 20), which was granted dominion status; a new constitution for the Crown Colony of Singapore (October 6); and the reorganization of the Malay mainland states. Malta (February 17) gained domestic self-government, and a new constitution

finished—crude rubber and automobile tires, iron ore and steel girders, cotton and cloth. Some goods find their destination in Port Said's own bazaars where Persian rugs, fine Chinese vases, and Ethiopian swords tempt transient purchasers. Intermingled with these beautiful Oriental wares are cheap jewelry, sports goods, and flimsy scarves.

This port was once the world's leading coaling station. It is still an important fueling point, though oil pipelines and coal-lifting machinery have taken over much of the work of the long lines of grimy men who once ran up the gangways of ships with their individual baskets of coal.

A made-to-order city, and comparatively modern, Port Said has straight streets, systematically crossing each other at right angles. To alleviate congestion on the sandy triangle, the canal company built a supplementary town, Port Fuad, across the canal in Asia. There, set in gardens and along wide streets, are dwellings for the company's employees. The city was named in honor of King Fuad who officiated at the opening ceremonies in 1926. Engineering and repair shops have since been moved across the water to relieve still crowded conditions in Port Said.

NOTE: Port Said appears on the Society's map of Bible Lands and the Cradle of Western Civilization.

For additional information, see "The Suez Canal: Short Cut to Empires," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for November, 1935; and "Along the Nile, Through Egypt and the Sudan," October, 1922.

CHARLES E. BROWN

CRAFT OF ALL TYPES AND SIZES, FROM DINGHIES TO DE LUXE LINERS, FILE PAST PORT SAID

Windows of these modern-appearing buildings along Port Said's tree-lined esplanade, the Shari es-Sultan Husein, would serve as grandstand seats for the colossal marine parade of ships from all over the globe which constantly passes through the Suez Canal. The black and white lighthouse rising from the offices of the Ports Administration, about midway of the waterfront, throws a beam visible for 20 nautical miles. At the far end of the quay, the customhouse rears a white tower. Across a stretch of water beyond it, the canal company's huge white office building, with triple domes and two-tier colonnades, gives an Oriental touch to the French-built city.

by which women voted for the first time. In British Mauritius, in the Indian Ocean, another new constitution was created, with votes for women and other electoral reforms.

Adjustments in the French Empire included the compromise establishment of a semi-commonwealth status for African Algeria, and the cession to the Indian Dominion of a number of tiny French enclaves in the Indian peninsula which had held special trading rights. The French government, however, retained its small and scattered India colonies.

In French Indochina, where struggle continued between the native Viet Nam Republic and French forces, a French-sponsored federation government was partially established. Eventually it plans to include all Indochina provinces—Laos (illustration, below), Cambodia, Cochin China, Tonkin, and Annam (January 27, March 10).

Government changes in the Netherlands Indies (November 24) also remained uncertain. The Netherlands home government signed the "Cheribon Agreement" with the newly-set-up Indonesian Republic in the spring of 1947. Disagreements and sporadic fighting, however, halted development of the proposed United States of Indonesia, to be linked with the Netherlands. Meanwhile several small native governments have been recognized on Borneo, Bangka, and Billiton.

NOTE: Areas involved in government changes may be located on the Society's World Map.

See also "Government Changes Made '46 Transition Year," in the GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS, January 20, 1947.

MAYNARD OWEN WILLIAMS

FENCING WITH THEIR FEET, LAOS TRIBESMEN IN FRENCH INDOCHINA FIGHT TO A FALL

There is no count of ten and judges are unnecessary; when a contestant is thrown off his feet the match is over. This type of boxing is popular in French Indochina, Siam, and neighboring regions. Agility is a greater asset than brute strength. The coup de grâce is often given with a slight push of the foot at the instant one's opponent is off balance.